

Memphis City Council Resolution

Whereas, the State Legislature recently approved House Bill 962 and Senate Bill 1127 thereby amending Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 17, relative to firearms; and

Whereas, the newly adopted legislation allows individuals with handgun-carry permits to bring a handgun within the confines of a restaurant that is open to the public and serves alcoholic beverages, wine or beer as long as said individual is not consuming beer, wine or any alcoholic beverage within the confines of the restaurant; and

Whereas, property owners desiring to ban persons from carrying firearms into restaurants or age-restricted venues pursuant to HB 962 and SB 1127 are allowed to do so by posting notices on such property prohibiting firearms; and

Whereas, the Memphis City Council feels this legislation will significantly and detrimentally impact the safety and well-being of the citizens of Memphis; and

Whereas, the Memphis City Council encourages all property owners of restaurants and other such places provided for in the legislation that serve beer, wine or any alcoholic beverage to post signs prohibiting firearms.

Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved by the Memphis City Council that property owners of restaurants and age-restricted venues that serve beer, wine or any other alcoholic beverage are encouraged to post signs on such property prohibiting firearms.

Be it Further Resolved that the posted notices shall follow the requirements as provided for in §39-17-1359 which stipulates that the signage shall be in English or also posted in any language used by patrons who frequent the place where weapon possession is prohibited; additionally the notice may also include the international circle and slash symbolizing the prohibition of the item within the circle; the sign shall be of a size that is plainly visible to the average person entering the building, premises or property.

Be it Further Resolved that posted notices shall contain language similar to that provided for in the above-referenced section of the Tennessee Code which reads as follows: Pursuant to §39-17-1359, *the owner/operator of this property has banned weapons on this property, or within this building or this portion of this building. Failure to comply with this prohibition is punishable as a criminal act under State law and may subject the violator to a fine of not more than five hundred dollars (\$500).*

Harold Collins

